

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00818 121619Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SAM-01 CPR-01 SCA-01 PPT-01 VO-03

PER-01 /027 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1719

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 818

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER AFSP CVIS OTRA PO SP

SUBJ: SPANISH VISAS REQUIRED FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND
OFFICIAL PASSPORTS

REF: MADRID 611

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON HOW MUCH LONGER YOU
THINK THE SPANISH WILL CONTINUE TO REQUIRE THAT
AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS BE VISAED
BEFORE A DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL TRAVELER WILL BE
ADMITTED TO SPAIN. THIS REQUIREMENT IS PUTTING AN
ENORMOUS BURDEN ON OUR PERSONNEL SECTION SINCE THE
VISAS BEING ISSUED ARE OF SHORT DURATION AND THE
SPANISH EMBASSY IS SO SLOW IN PROCESSING APPLICATIONS.
IT NORMALLY TAKES THREE DAYS TO VISA A PASSPORT IF
THE PASSPORT AND NOTE ARE SENT TO THE EMBASSY BY
MESSENGER; TWO HOURS IF THE APPLICATION IS MADE IN
PERSON.

2. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER YOU HAVE HAD
ANY INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING
THE VALIDITY OF VISAS TO BE ISSUED TO HOLDERS
OF SPANISH DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS,
SINCE THE SPANISH DO NOT OFFER RECIPROCITY TO
WHAT WE ISSUE TO THEIR DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL
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TRAVELERS. THE VISAS BEING ISSUED BY THE

SPANISH IN LISBON, WHICH ARE MORE IN THE NATURE
OF ENTRY PERMITS, ARE VALID FOR A SINGLE VISIT
OF A STIPULATED NUMBER OF DAYS. THE NUMBER OF
DAYS AUTHORIZED IS LIMITED TO THE NUMBER DECLARED
IN THE EMBASSY'S NOTE TO BE NECESSARY FOR THE
TRAVELER TO ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSE OF THE
PARTICULAR TRIP.
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